



WEST AFRICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION OUEST AFRICAINE DE LA SANTE
ORGANIZAÇÃO OESTE AFRICANA DA SAÚDE

PRESS RELEASE

Paris, 10 MARCH 2025

Strengthening the Partnership between WAHO, AFD, and the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights, March 10-12, 2025, in Paris, France.



As part of strengthening its partnership with European collaborators, the **West African Health Organization** (WAHO) undertook a series of working visits to Europe from March 3 to March 12, 2025.

In this context, a WAHO delegation led by its **Director General, Dr. Melchior Athanase Joël Codjovi AïSSI**, carried out a working visit to the headquarters of the **French Development Agency** (AFD) and **Expertise France** (EF) from **March 10 to March 12, 2025**.

This visit provided an excellent opportunity to continue working sessions aimed at finalizing a joint program to be co-financed by AFD, the European Union, and the Gates Foundation under the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights.

This process, on which our respective teams have been collaborating for over two and a half years, in partnership with Enabel and Expertise France, is expected to conclude in the coming weeks, paving the way for the contractualization phase. In addition to AFD and WAHO, these sessions will also involve Enabel and Expertise France. The visit also allowed



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both parties to conduct an in-depth review of collaborative projects undertaken since 2016, including:

- **DEMSAN Project:** Demography and Sexual and Reproductive Health Program.
- **RIPOST Project:** Epidemiological surveillance network of National Public Health Institutes in West Africa against epidemics.
- **RHSP Project:** Development of Human Resources for Health.
- **RegPharma Project:** Regional support for pharmaceutical regulation in West and Central Africa.

This visit to AFD's headquarters marks a key milestone in strengthening the partnership between WAHO and AFD, aligned with the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights.

About the West African Health Organization (WAHO).

The West African Health Organization (WAHO) is the Specialized Health Institution of ECOWAS, established in 1987 to coordinate regional health initiatives in West Africa. WAHO works to harmonize health policies, pool resources, and foster collaboration among Member States. Its primary mandate is to improve health standards and strengthen health systems across the sub-region. Guided by its vision, WAHO strives to be a proactive driver of regional health integration, delivering high-impact and cost-effective health interventions for West African communities.

About the French Development Agency (AFD)

Group The French Development Agency (AFD) Group contributes to implementing France's policy on development and international solidarity. Its focus spans health, education, climate, biodiversity, peace, urban planning, and governance. AFD teams are involved in 4,200 high-impact social and environmental projects across more than 150 countries, as well as in France's overseas territories. Through these efforts, AFD supports France's and the French people's commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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